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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,349	09/13/2004	Don S. Rawlings	71486-0079	5348
20915	7590	01/23/2006		
MCGARRY BAIR PC 171 MONROE AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 600 GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503			EXAMINER FASTOVSKY, LEONID M	
			ART UNIT 3742	PAPER NUMBER
				DATE MAILED: 01/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SJR

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/711,349	RAWLINGS, DON S.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Leonid M. Fastovsky	3742	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 September 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 13 September 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>20041210</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because an extraneous word "comprises". Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-3, 5–8,10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bulgajewski et al (6,426,485).

Bulgajewski teaches a vehicular electrochromic mirror assembly 10 which is inherently a dimming device (col. 5, lines 1-17) comprising a base 12 (Fig. 1) adapted to be mounted to a vehicle 14, a reflective element carrier 16, a reflective element 21 (col. 5, lines 18-26) and a supportive member 52, and a power distributor through terminals 66 and 68 (Fig. 1-2) connected to a plurality of functional elements such as a heater 50 comprising an array of conductive elements 74-75 and a light source 36. Further, Bulgajewski teaches the power distributor comprising a planar member 66 or 68, and a first power lead 66 connected to the heating element 50

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bulgajewski in view of Fuerst et al (6,247,823).

Bulgajewski discloses substantially the claimed invention but does not disclose a ribbon cable.

Fuerst teaches a vehicular mirror 1 comprising a base 3 (Fig. 1) adapted to be mounted to a vehicle, a reflective element carrier and a reflective element (col. 1, lines 25-38), and a power distributor 14 of ribbon cable type connected to a plurality of functional elements 9,19, 20, 29, 30 and 31.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Bulgajewski's invention to include a ribbon cable as taught by Fuerst in order to provide a compact and safety mirror assembly.

6. Claims 9 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bulgajewski.

Bulgajewski discloses substantially the claimed invention including a turn signal (col. 5, lines 35-52) and a second power lead 68, but does not disclose that the signal abuts the reflective element. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Bulgajewski's invention to make the turn signal to abut the reflective element 21

and interconnect it with the second power lead 68 as a design choice that would have been determined by the user having a desired result in mind.

7. Claims 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bulgajewski in view of Lynam et al (5,808,777).

Bulgajewski discloses substantially the claimed invention including the electrochromic-dimming device, but does not disclose a third power lead. Lynam discloses electrochromic element 10' having power leads 54. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Bulgajewski's invention to make the third power lead as taught by Lynam and interconnect it with the dimming device in order to securely operate the dimming device.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leonid M. Fastovsky whose telephone number is 571-272-4778. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th. 8.00 am -6.00 pm.

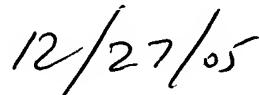
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on 571-272-4777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Leonid M Fastovsky
Examiner
Art Unit 3742

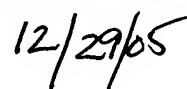
lmf



12/27/05



ROBIN O. EVANS
PRIMARY EXAMINER



12/29/05